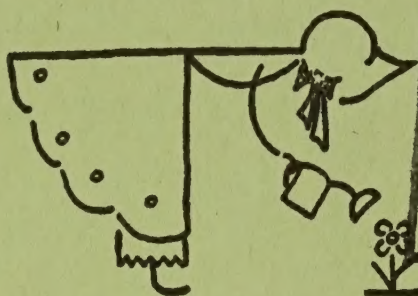


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U. S. Department of Agriculture

The

Christmas

Rose

The Christmas Rose

Helleborus niger altifolius

Although called a "Christmas Rose", it belongs not to the rose family but to the crowfoot or *ranunculacae* along with the buttercup, anemone, and hepatica. Unafraid of snow and cold, the plant blooms outdoors from November on, with stragglers into early spring.

It is a perennial with leaves and flowers springing direct from the ground, and grows to a height of about a foot. Flowers are pure white on opening but turn to rosy bronze shades as they age. The leaves are evergreen.

The Christmas Rose is ideal for dooryard gardens planted in groups about a foot apart, among ivy, myrtle or spurge. It is delightful used in the foreground of a planting of broad-leaved evergreens where it can be seen blooming in winter from house windows. A sheltered, semi-shaded position in ordinary garden soil with sufficient moisture is best for the Christmas Rose. Good drainage is essential. Do not plant too close to tree roots.

Soil should be prepared to a depth of 18 inches when plants are set out. Once established they require little care except watering in dry periods; but if fertilizing

is necessary, bonemeal or superphosphate may be used in September or April. No cultivating is required and the plant thrives undisturbed for many years. The fascinating history, with illustrations, story and verse, along with detailed cultural information, is contained in our book, "The Christmas Rose".

Helleborus orientalis, the Lenten Rose, is similar and the same cultural directions apply. It blooms in early spring, with several flowers to a stem in muted shades of violet-veined white to plum color. We have several varieties of Millet Hybrids.

We have grown hellebores for many years; we believe we grow the best. We dig plants with a ball of earth when called for at the nursery, and consequently they may be dug and transplanted at any time of year that the ground is open. When ordered shipped by parcel post or express, earth is shaken from the roots. In this case, the plants should be planted where they are to grow immediately on receipt; or if the ground should be frozen too hard for planting at once, they may be kept in a cool place for a time until the ground becomes open.

A. E. LUEDY CO.
Hathaway Road
Bedford, Ohio



A. E. LUEDY CO. . GROWERS



1226 HATHAWAY ROAD
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Gentlemen:

Your form letter of January 9, 1952:

Our specialty is Hellebores:

Helleborus niger altifolius

Christmas Rose

\$1.25 each; \$7 for 6: \$13.75 dozen
plus post-pack-tax

Helleborus orientalis

Lenten Rose - named varieties \$2.50 to \$3.50 each
plus post-pack-tax

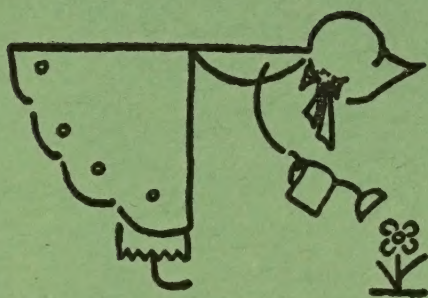
Helleborus foetidus - \$1.00 each
plus post-pack-tax

Helleborus viridis - \$3.50 each
plus post-pack-tax

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100 HATHAWAY
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Christmas Roses

Blooming plants
available.

Can be shipped by parcel post
or express as long into the fall as
the ground remains open.

Highest quality.

This will be the best loved plant
in your garden.

Perfect for gift-giving.

A. E. LUEDY CO.

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Perfect for gift-giving.

"The Christmas Rose"

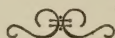
by Arthur E. & Mildred Luedy
Everyone finds fascination in the history of this flower of the ancients. Beautifully illustrated with pictures, story and verse.

Gardeners will discover explicit cultural information of absorbing interest.

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